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SENSITIVE
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STATE ALSO PASS USTR
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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ECON ETRD TBIO DA
SUBJECT: (SBU) DENMARK SUPPORTS APPROVAL OF BIOTECH MAIZE
VARIETIES AT OCTOBER 19 EU MEETINGS

REF: SECSTATE 106819

(U) SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED; PROTECT ACCORDINGLY. NOT FOR
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(SBU) EconOff delivered reftel points to Hanne Lauger, Head of the Danish Ministry of Food, Agriculture, and Fisheries' Office of EU Policy and International Affairs on October 16. She responded that Denmark will support approval for all the varieties of maize under consideration during the October 19 meetings. Lauger also shared that Danish Minister of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries Eva Kjer Hansen plans to press fellow EU members on two points: 1) to accept higher-than-zero contamination tolerance levels for BT varieties of maize and soybeans in shipments to the EU, as long as the trace amounts detected come from BT varieties that have been found safe by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA); and, 2) to streamline the approval process for BT variants that have been found safe by EFSA.

FULTON